

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 – 34 are currently pending and rejected.

The applicant amends claims 1, 3, 10, 11, 16, 20 – 22, 24 – 28, and 30 – 32. Claims 1, 3, 10, 11, 16, 20 – 22, 24 – 28, and 30 – 32 have been amended not to overcome the examiner's rejections, but to return them to the condition that each was in when the examiner first rejected the claims in view of U.S. Patent 6,922,702 (Jensen) (see the Office Action mailed 29 December 2006). The applicant respectfully asserts that claims 1 – 34, as amended, are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed below.

Claims 1 – 34 Rejected Over Jensen in Combination With One or More Other References

The enclosed declaration shows that the inventor conceived the claimed invention in the United States before 31 August 2000, which is the purported effective date of Jensen; and was diligent in reducing the invention to practice.

Therefore, the applicant requests that the examiner withdraw all rejections that are based in full or in part on this reference.

Conclusion

The applicant respectfully requests that the examiner withdraw the rejections against claims 1 – 34, as amended, and issue an allowance for these claims.

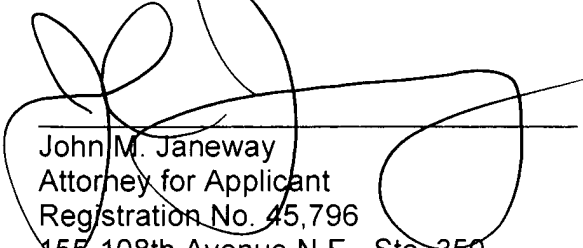
If, after considering this response, the examiner believes the claims should not be allowed, the applicants respectfully request that before issuing an Office Action, the examiner call the applicant's attorney, Mr. Janeway (425-455- 5575), to schedule a telephone conference to further the prosecution of the claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge, at any time during the pendency of this application, any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 071897 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.25.

Dated this 17th day of December 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

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